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By the Car...
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Marginal Column

By Robert Stephens

Ministers' Group To Implement School Policy

An inter-Ministerial committee of three members is to be set up to investigate working conditions in the metal industry, it was decided at a Cabinet meeting yesterday, which discussed the present strike. The committee is to submit a report and recommendations within a month.

The question of education in camps and Yemite settlements was discussed, and an inter-Ministerial committee, comprising the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education and Culture, and the Minister of Religious Affairs, was established to implement the policy previously laid down by the Government.

It was also decided to bring forward the date of school registration from April to March.

Metal Workers Ask General Strike

HAIFA, Tuesday. — A meeting of metal workers in Haifa this evening adopted a resolution to make the strike general for the whole metal industry at the end of this month, if, by then, the employers would not accept their wage demands.

They also called on the Government to prevent the Manufacturers' Association to use its right of controlling raw material supplies to withhold them from these industrialists who are prepared to raise wages.

They also decided to establish a solidarity strike fund to which each metal worker is to pay one day's wages for support of the strikers.

Nesher Cement Deliveries Halted

TEL AVIV, Tuesday. — The distribution of Nesher cement has been temporarily stopped, presumably to enable the Ministry of Trade and Industry to carry out a survey of buildings at present under construction. Since January 7, when Mr. Alexander Noy was appointed head of the Sub-Division for Building, no cement has been issued to private builders, it was reported here today. Supplies to cooperative building firms were also cut off recently.

French-Indian Accord Signed

As a result of special economic efforts made by the French the four towns have recently benefited from an unusual prosperity and their local government councils have not shown any anxiety for the proposed referendum or for incorporation in India. In this, the Indian Government has seen a French policy of mixed political bribery and electoral manipulation, and has declared that it would not consider itself bound by the results of a referendum held in present conditions. Most noticeably, they are aware of the problems at all, recognize that eventually the four towns will have to be transferred to Indian sovereignty. But they think this would be a precedent which might have dangerous repercussions in other parts of the French Union.

Polish-Egypt Trade Accord Signed

LONDON, Tuesday (Reuters). — Egypt will send Poland cotton, phosphates, cotton waste, and other goods under a trade agreement for 1951 which has been signed in Warsaw, according to Warsaw radio today.

Poland will send Egypt food products, chemicals, metal goods, timber and minerals.

Azzam Reports To League on Mission

The third session of the Arab League Political Committee last night was devoted to a review of the international situation. Azzam Pasha of Egypt reported on his visit to the U.S., France and the Vatican on behalf of the League, according to ANA.

The second session, which took place on Monday evening, was also devoted to the international situation. Dr. Salah Edin, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, presided at both sessions.

Migration Bill Sent To Committee

Mr. Tewfik Toubi (Communist) protested in the Knesset yesterday against the deportation of infiltrators who, he claimed, were entitled to return to Israel. He was speaking in the debate on the Migration Bill which later passed its first reading.

Point Four Aid Accepted

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I wish to inform the Knesset of the move the Government intends making to receive technical assistance from the U.S. under a scheme known as "Point Four."

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Shift In Emphasis

Of even greater moment was the failure of the Arab campaign for the return of the refugees, marked by Egypt's being obliged to withdraw her resolution. The final resolution made no specific reference to the return of refugees, but emphasized the obligation to pay compensation.

The Foreign Minister explained that this resolution has to be taken in conjunction with another, providing for the establishment of a Reintegration Fund, from which the final absorption of refugees in various Middle Eastern countries is to be financed.

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Mr. Sharett gave a factual report on the progress of the Jerusalem debate and recalled that no resolution at all was adopted. "This situation causes no concern to the Government," he said. "It is our sincere conviction that this state of affairs should cause no concern either to those who cherish the Holy Places and are anxious for their safety."

He went on to assure the world that Israel would protect and defend the Holy Places situated in its territory and would ensure free access to them subject to security considerations. The property and religious rights of the churches would be fully safeguarded, he said, adding that the Government might find it necessary to express its responsibility for the Holy Places in the territory of Israel through special legislative and suitable administrative arrangements.

On the question of Arab refugees, Mr. Sharett said the Assembly's rejection of the Arab demand to separate the issues of peace and the return of the refugees was a setback to them. The Assembly did not explicitly connect the solution of the refugee problem with peace negotiations, but the fact that the two issues were combined in one resolution despite the southern Arab demand for their separation was not without some significance, the Foreign Minister believed.

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